



**Information Session**

**Friday, October 14, 2005, 10:00 am**



# Partnership

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- NCPC (lead)
- District of Columbia Department of Parks and Recreation
- District of Columbia Office of Planning
- National Park Service

# What is it?

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**\*Comprehensive plan for parks and open space within Washington DC\***

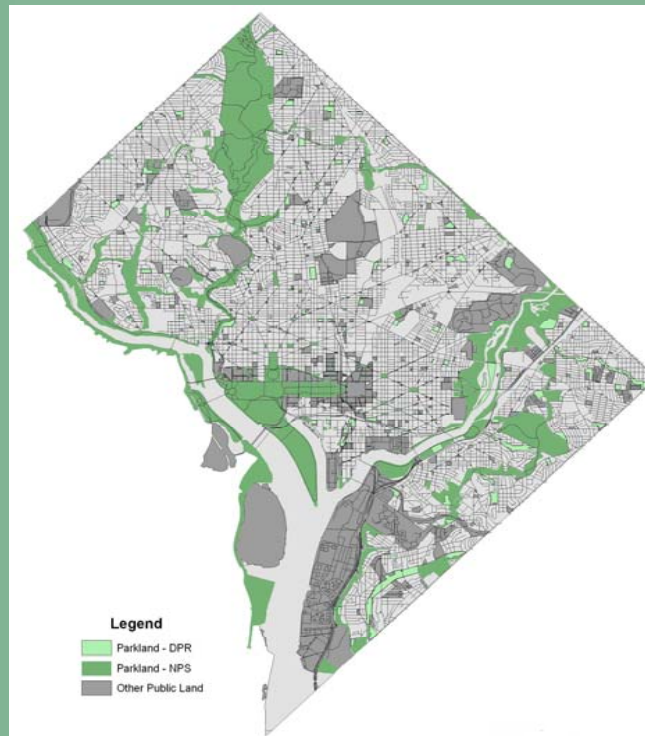
- Establishes a shared vision
- Establishes a shared planning framework
- Establishes strategies to allow individual agency actions to work together towards a seamless system of parks and open space

# Why do we need it?

**Washington, D.C. has an abundance of land devoted to parks and open space**

**6776 acres of  
National Park  
Service parks  
and open space**

**900 acres of  
District (local)  
parks and open  
space**



**Other federal  
agencies control  
sites with  
significant open  
space**

# Why do we need it?

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## Our key challenges today are:

- Quality of parks and open spaces
- Connections and access
- Strengthening systems
- Meeting the needs of multiple users, and local and national needs

# What will it do?

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- Establish current and future needs and opportunities for parks and open space
- Identify resources to protect, restore, and connect critical historic, ecological, and recreational systems
- Clarify federal and local needs
- Identify opportunities and strategies to improve quality, access, and use of parks and open space within the city fabric

# Work Program

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## Five Tracks

1. Establishing a vision
2. Identifying the historic background, current conditions, problems, and opportunities
3. Producing a plan
4. Implementing the plan's recommendations
5. Engaging the public

# 1. Establishing a Vision

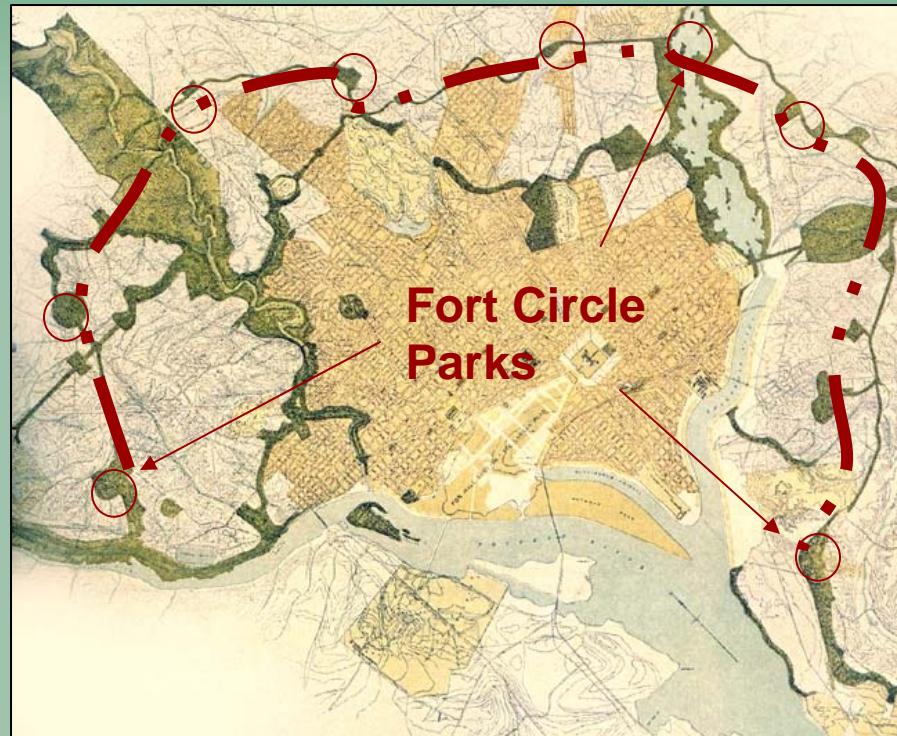
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- **Developing a vision and plan goals**
  - Seamless system of parks and open space
  - Superior in quality
  - Local and national needs are met



# 1. Establishing a Vision

- **Developing a vision and plan goals**
  - Review existing plans and programs for existing goals and objectives



McMillan Plan - 1901

# 1. Establishing a Vision

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**\*Iterative process\***

## **NCPC:**

- Provide existing research and recent public comments/survey results

## **Consultant:**

- Interviews/discussions with stakeholders
- Compile existing research and public comments with new responses in interviews/discussions for overall understanding of local and national needs

## **Deliverable:**

- Working vision, goals, identified opportunities

## 2. Identifying Conditions

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- Establishing historic and current conditions
- Identifying major systems and corridors
- Identifying multiple management systems
- Updating data

Franklin Square



## 2. Identifying Conditions



Franklin Square

- Establishing working typologies
- Defining standards
- Defining users and current future demands
- Producing an asset and needs assessment

## 2. Identifying Conditions

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### **NCPC:**

- Provide background Information and data

### **Consultant:**

- Define Current Conditions through interviews with stakeholders and field work
- Define typologies and appropriate standards for different types of parks in DC
- Identify current and future demand for different types of parks in DC
- Assess current assets for opportunities

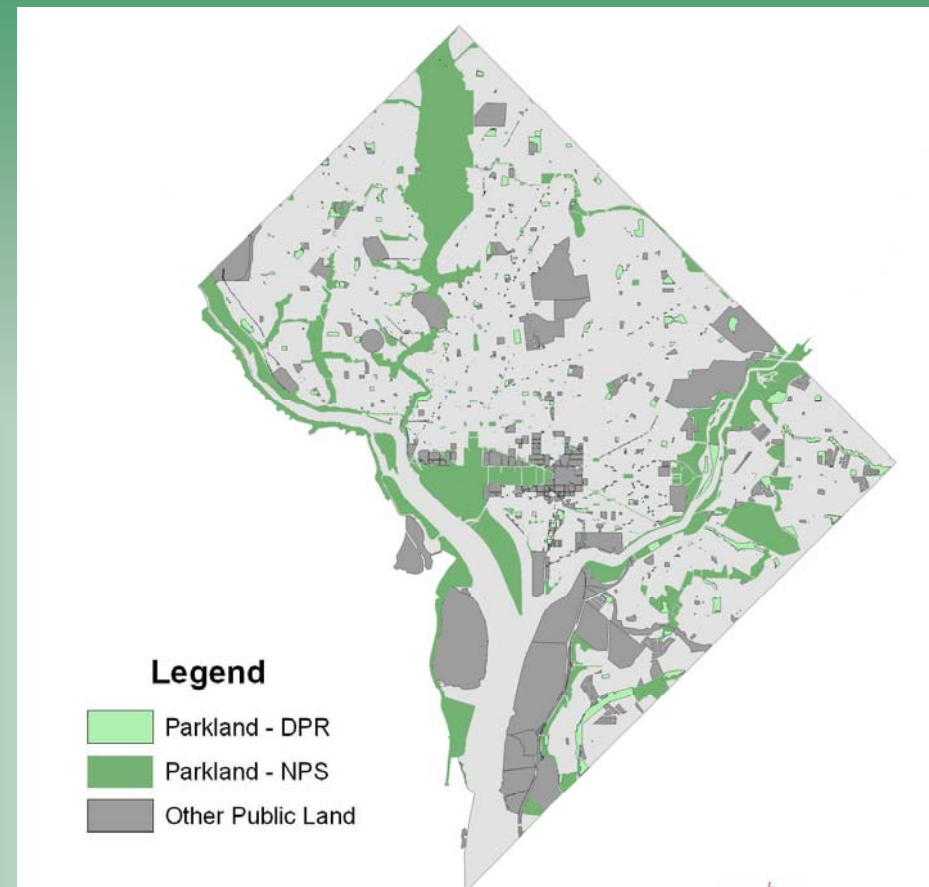
## 2. Identifying Conditions

### **Deliverable:**

### **State of the District: Parks and Open Space Report**

#### **Summarizes:**

- Background and current conditions
- Asset and needs assessment
- Initial vision, goals, and opportunities

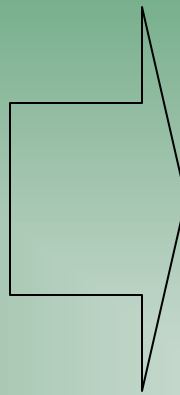




# 3. Producing the Plan

## Five Themes:

- Places to Connect
- Places to Preserve
- Places to Green
- Places to Play
- Places to Grow



For each theme:

**Design Concepts**

**Programs**

**Policies**

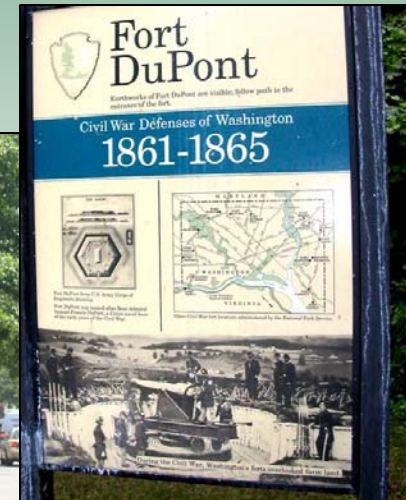
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**focused on land  
and physical  
resources**

# 3. Producing the Plan

## Places to Connect

- Complete and improve transportation, recreation, ecological and historic open space systems





# 3. Producing the Plan

## Places to Preserve

- Maintain and restore historic and culturally significant spaces and enliven historic urban parks



# 3. Producing the Plan

## Places to Preserve

- Promote local and national activities—from commemoration to public gatherings—in existing parks and open space



Dupont Circle successfully combines neighborhood uses and commemoration

# 3. Producing the Plan

## Places to Green

- Enhance quality of existing sites through upgraded amenities and improved maintenance



**K Street—Creating new green boulevards**



# 3. Producing the Plan

## Places to Green

- Identify ways to better serve the public

Transforming barriers like this...



...into gateways to  
our open space  
(Watts Branch Park)

# 3. Producing the Plan

## Places to Play

- Expand opportunities for local recreation and find innovative ways to meet multiple user needs



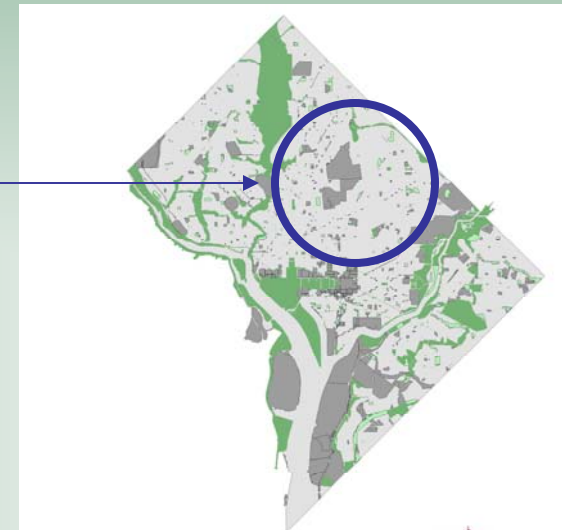
# 3. Producing the Plan

## Places to Grow

- Creating new parks in neighborhoods that lack open space; ensuring that areas with new residential development have adequate open space



Limited access  
to regional or  
neighborhood  
parks



# 3. Producing the Plan

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## **Deliverable:**

### **Parks and Open Space Plan**

- **Vision**

#### **For each theme:**

- **Programs**
- **Policies**
- **Design concepts**
- **Priorities for future local and federal investments and actions**



## 4. Implementation

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- Interviews and case studies to recommend improvements to working relationships and partnerships
- Model language to develop planning and regulatory tools
- Model projects
- Advancing land acquisitions, transfers, and dispositions
- Cost estimates for standard capital improvements recommended in the plan
- Potential funding sources and strategies
  
- Report: action agenda
  - phasing and priorities of implementation items



## 5. Public Engagement (throughout)

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- **Identify and use stakeholders**
- **Utilize existing processes**
  - Comprehensive plan public forums
  - DPR master plan surveys and public meetings
- **Utilize stakeholder groups as needed**
  - site or issue specific
- **Conduct public outreach events**
  - Participate in the green infrastructure and open space symposium
  - Present and assist in the State of the District Parks and Open Space event
  - Plan development: present draft and final plan

# What's Next

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- **Contract award for services**

(November—proposals due Thursday, November 3)

- **State of the District Parks and Open Space**

(Spring 2006)

- **Plan development**

(Spring 2006-Winter 2006)

- **Draft Plan**

(Spring 2007)

- **Final Plan Completion**

(Summer 2007)

# What Else is Happening

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- **Green infrastructure and open space symposium**  
(December)
- **NCPC's Federal City Framework Plan**
- **DC Department of Parks and Recreation master plan**  
(Draft: Winter 2006)
- **DC Office of Planning comprehensive plan revision**  
(Draft: Spring 2006)



# Capitalspace

A Park System for the Nation's Capital



